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The American League of
Naturalized Citizens

Boston

1938

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THE AMERICAN LEAGUE
OF
NATURALIZED CITIZENS

A PROPOSAL

DR. C. MUSGRAVE

308

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Box 489

THE AMERICAN LEAGUE OF
NATURALIZED CITIZENS

DR. C. MUSGRAVE
117 Fresh Pond Parkway
Cambridge (Mass.)

May, 1938

Dear Sir:

Allow me to call your attention to my proposal to form the "American League of Naturalized Citizens." The enclosed draft of a prospectus contains details which, I hope, will justify my question whether you would be willing to give any advice in this matter. I have no desire to push myself into the public limelight, but I should prefer to hand the whole matter over to a Committee of prominent citizens.

Hoping you will kindly forgive my troubling you.

Sincerely yours,

DR. C. MUSGRAVE.

THE AMERICAN LEAGUE OF NATURALIZED CITIZENS

A PROPOSAL

BY

DR. C. MUSGRAVE



BOSTON
MEADOR PUBLISHING COMPANY
MCMXXXVIII

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CONTENTS	
CHAPTER	PAGE
I Europe in Arms	7
II Future Wars	9
III Ambassador Dodd's Warning	12
IV The World's Situation	13
V The United States and the Threatening War	14
VI Foreign Soldiers in the United States	15
VII Foreign Ballots in the United States	17
VIII The Blessings of Liberty	18
IX America Must Give the Answer	20
X The American League of Naturalized Citizens	22

The American League of Naturalized Citizens

I

German armies have seized Austria.

Czecho-Slovakia expects German invasion and prepares to fight.

France is bound by treaties to aid Czecho-Slovakia and prepares to fight.

Russia prepares to fight.

Poland is threatened by the Nazi Regime. On April 13, 1933, in the town of Schneidemuehl, a few hundred feet from the Polish boundary, a statue was dedicated representing a German woman looking toward the former German provinces now belonging to Poland. The monument bears the following inscription: "Never forget, German, what blind hatred robbed you of. Await the hour that will expiate the shame of the bleeding frontier."

Eupen, Malmedy, Danzig, Memel, Latvia, Estonia, Roumania, Bulgaria . . . they all are threatened by the Nazi Regime.

Denmark and Schleswig are threatened by the Nazi Regime.

Hungaria is threatened by the Nazi regime.

Holland is threatened by Hitler's statements in his book "Mein Kampf." The historical largest German river "The Rhine" flows in its ultimate course through Dutch territory and falls into the North Sea at Rotter-

dum, the most important Dutch harbour, opposite the English coast.

England, already weakened to an alarming extent by events at home and abroad will never allow without fighting Germany to become her neighbor across the Channel.

Italy claims the right to dominate the Mediterranean—"Our Sea"—and to reestablish the glorious Roman Empire, thereby threatening Great Britain's *Le Line* to her dominions and colonies.

Germany, in addition to her European extension, demands the unconditional surrender of all overseas colonies taken from her by the treaty of Versailles.

South America is threatened by the Dictators.

All these recent events and facts render war in the near future apparently unavoidable.

II

Future wars will not be limited to fights between soldiers and armed troops, but (as recent events in Ethiopia, Spain and China have shown) will manifest the carefully contemplated, skillfully prepared and savagely carried out annihilation of life in general with all the means of scientific efficiency in the art of killing and spreading terror. Civilians of every description, women, children, all will be considered and treated as deadly enemies, because they may produce armament or food, may till the soil or care for the cattle, may enlarge the resources, may keep up the home and the hope of the fighting army, may comfort the wounded and save them from death. The German field marshalls Ludendorff and Hindenburg have pronounced the maxim (and many military authorities of other nations have agreed): The most deadly and inexorable war is the most humanitarian because the utmost misery will shorten the war's extent in time.

The Berlin correspondent of *The New York Times* reported Sept. 6, 1933:

"GERMAN WAR SCIENCE. NAZI MANUEL FOR SCHOOLS. The part which the professors are to play in making Germany martial is indicated by a little book "Wehrwissenschaft" (Military Science) by Professor Ewald Banse, of Brunswick Technical High School (Armanen Verlag). The author is one of the men appointed to chairs of military science at the German universities in recent months, and it is reasonable to judge their functions and methods by his handbook. . . . The starting point of the book is that war is inevitable and certain and that it is imperative to know as much about it and to be as efficient as possible. . . .

Professor Banse argues that the mind of the nation, from childhood on, must be impregnated and familiarized with the idea of war. War is either the aim of all policy or the instrument to which policy resigns itself in the moment of failure. His book is not a learned dissertation of the art of war as practised by the soldier; but rather a child's guide to war. . . . The eye of the growing German must be trained to contemplate a lake, for instance, not only as a piece of water but also as a geographical feature destined to influence the movements of troops. The birds of the air, the animals in the fields, climate, vegetation, and subsoil, all have their military significance.

"Lamentations about liberation from Versailles" says Professor Banse in his foreword "lead us nowhere, and only make us ridiculous, if we do not take our fate in our own HANDS. . . . For nobody should be in doubt that war stands between our prevailing need and our coming fortune. But war is today no more a fresh and frolicsome campaign with regimental music. . . . it is a bloody battle, and in particular a contest of material; it is gas and plague, it is tank and aircraft-horror, it is hunger and poverty, it is baseness and falsehood, it is deprivation and sacrifice. Only a nation can endure it whose every member has known for years and is in deepest soul convinced that his life belongs to the State, and only to the State. . . . We will therefore not paint war in rose-color, we will not desire it, but we are convinced that it will come, and that the way to freedom can only lead through it."

In discussing "War as an idea" the author says "War is the eternal renewer; it creates and it destroys. . . . Everybody must understand that there is nothing extraordinary or criminal about war, that it is not a sin against humanity. The defence and amelioration of their existence are among the highest moral duties and rights of mankind and of states. . . . The three main

principles are: To strengthen the war-will of the home population, to weaken that of the enemy population and to influence neutral peoples against the enemy. To this end the propaganda organization must be prepared in peace time. Foreign and neutral countries must be covered from propaganda centres abroad with "a close net of unostentatious influence. . . . Every means is permissible. . . ."

The Church must play its part in this psychological preparation. Government and military command should only support a church which strengthens the national state of mind of the individual and of the soldier. Only such a church can give the inward strength they need to stake their lives for nation and State. "The dying warrior dies more easily when he knows that his blood is ebbing for his national God."

In discussing the technique of modern warfare Professor Banse says that the French first applied biological warfare by conveying bacterial cultures to their prisoners of war in Germany for poisoning cattle and grain. "This devilish plan miscarried"—but the idea offers possibilities for the next war. . . . Biological warfare "is undoubtedly the given weapon for a nation that has been disarmed and rendered defenceless."

III

The New York Herald reported January 14, 1938:

DODD CALLS HITLER WORLD MENACE AND SAYS UNITED STATES MUST SHARE BLAME.

William E. Dodd, who returned to private life in the United States on Jan. 6 after serving four and a half years as Ambassador to Germany delivered a scathing appraisal of the Nazi Regime of Adolf Hitler in an address at a dinner given in his honor last night. . . . He described Chancellor Hitler as having power more absolute than any medieval emperor of Germany and declared that almost as many of his personal opponents had been killed in five years as Charles II had executed in twenty years (1665-1685).

"He came to power after the style of Mussolini, charging that communism had been overthrown. His power, shared by Goering and Goebbels, was and is now more absolute than any medieval emperor of Germany had ever seen. . . . All the world knows how he denied religious, personal and Press-Freedom, how universities and schools were put under party-control and how almost as many personal opponents were killed in five years as Charles II had executed in twenty years of the seventeenth century. . . .

Summing up the world situation today, Mr. Dodd said:

"Mankind is in great danger, but democratic governments seem not to know what to do. If they do nothing, western civilization, religious, personal and economic freedom, is in grave danger. Another world war would almost certainly wreck the governments and people of our time. . . ."

IV

THE WORLD'S SITUATION

The world's situation can today (May, 1938) be described in a very few words: The one hundred and sixty million inhabitants of Russia, the seventy-three million inhabitants of Hitler's Empire and the forty million inhabitants of Mussolini's Italy have been reduced to slaves without any individual rights. They have forsaken the human rights of conscience, of electoral voting, of forming their own ideas and ideals, of believing in a divine power of their own choice, of constructing their own religion and philosophy. They have become mere marionettes in the hands of hysterical fanatics. They must swear allegiance to fanatics who assume to represent God and Providence more than any tyrant has ever before in the history of the human race dared to usurp. And in exchange for all their losses they are burdened with the duty to be killed or to kill and torture others or to be tortured themselves in order to sustain the phantoms of their pathological masters. A national psychosis has grasped Russia, Germany and Italy producing indeed a grave danger to the rest of the world.

V

THE UNITED STATES AND THE THREATENING WAR

Public opinion in the United States at the present moment very strongly objects to any participation in the European struggle. But historical events have their own laws independent of desires and ambitions of single so-called strong men, or even of large multitudes and majorities. One stray shot . . . (as in 1914) may force history into entirely unexpected channels and may alter all human calculations.

The population of the United States is to a very large extent composed of the descendants of those European nations which at the present moment prepare mutual destruction. The danger that European war-mentality may overlap the ocean and may threaten the harmony within the national community of the United States, is a great one. Thousands of Naturalized American citizens have in 1935 shown their allegiance to Germany by accepting Hitler's invitation to cross the Atlantic at the expense of the German government and to vote in favor of Germany on occasion of the Saar plebiscite. Thousands of Italians have applied to be allowed to march under Mussolini's colours against Ethiopia. And in deadly opposition thousands of coloured American citizens proved in enthusiastic demonstrations their desire to march against Mussolini.

The Associated Press reported October 3, 1935:

*Italians Volunteering**Thousands in New York Sections Offer Services to Fight in War Against Ethiopia*

"Swept along on the martial tide, thousands of Italians in the Metropolitan New York area are volunteering for action on the Ethiopian front. At the Italian Consulate today, Count Revedin, first Vice Consul General, disclosed that more than 1000 applications had already been forwarded formally to Rome. Many more have been made in person to the war-ministry or by letter to Rome. . . . Ugo V. D'Annunzio, son of the Italian poet-warrior . . . also disclosed that he had been flooded with applications from volunteers. . . ."

* * *

All of these "American citizens," white or black, have apparently forgotten that they have solemnly sworn allegiance to the United States, that they have on oath "Renounced forever all allegiance and fidelity to all and any foreign Prince, Potentate, State and Sovereignty," that by signing their citizen-documents they have solemnly declared to be convinced adherents of a free system of government irreconcilable to dictatorship, that only on the strength of such oath and promise they have been received in the Commonwealth as free citizens of the United States. If they keep their solemn promise they are welcome members of our community. If they break their oath they cease to be Americans, forfeit the privileges granted to them and become undesirable aliens.

VI

"GERMANY TO ENROLL ITS CITIZENS IN U. S.

"WASHINGTON, April 4 (A.P.)—German Embassy officials announced that Germany's new 'matriculation' law requiring all German citizens abroad to register at consulates would become effective this month.

"No special date for registration was set, but embassy officials said German consuls in this country already were busy accepting the registration forms from Germans and Austrians residing here.

"The registration requirement was described as a return to German policy of closely tabulating its citizens in foreign countries. Since the World War, officials said, the requirement stipulating that Germans must register or lose their citizenship was allowed to lapse."

VII

The Christian Science Monitor, Boston, reported April 11, 1938:

"GERMANS ABROAD VOTE 'JA'"

"Germany made good use of its 'maritime votes' in yesterday's plebescite. German nationals living in many parts of the world took advantage of the International three-mile limit, boarding German boats on which to poll their 'Ja's.'

"Germans and Austrians voted on the German Steamer Wilhelm Gustloff which took them from Tilbury, England. A count of 1968 to 10 in favor of 'Anschluss' was recorded.

"Germans living in Vancouver and Halifax, Canada, found no German ship available in port to carry them out beyond the three-mile limit and consequently were denied the privilege of a vote.

"The German steamer Friderun, anchored in Hong Kong harbor, recorded 358 'yes' votes, and six 'no' votes.

"Several ports in the United States saw Germans and Austrians carried out to cast their votes, and all outgoing German passenger ships were supplied with ballot boxes.

Germans living in the vicinity of Naples, Italy, were taken beyond Italian territorial waters by the German battleship Admiral Scheer. The Italian Government granted a 70 per cent railway fare reduction for people going to and from Formia, the port of departure.

"Other balloting was recorded in Haifa, Palestine, Manila, Rio de Janeiro, Copenhagen, and Costa Rica."

VIII

An Editorial in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, March 27, 1938:

"ON THE BLESSINGS OF LIBERTY

"In all humility—for grievous have been our follies and our failures—let us give thanks that we live under a democratic form of government.

"We are told by some of our own citizens that fascism would be a good thing for America.

"Fascism, they say, is swift in action, democracy slow and halting. Fascism is 'efficient,' democracy inefficient.

"Purblind men!

"The American democratic system is indeed slow in its normal workings; it was intended to be. It bogs down at times into seeming futility. It has been betrayed and exploited—as what system of government has not been?—by men seeking power and men seeking gain. It is weakened by corrupt political machines—like fascist areas of power—and it is plagued today as never before by a locust swarm of problems.

"Yet as we look at today's Europe, we should thank 'whatever gods may be' for our democracy.

"The homes and shops of people in America are not being pilaged because they belong to a proscribed race.

"Men are not fleeing from America, they are not killing themselves or being killed, because of their race.

"Men are not in concentration camps because of their race or religion.

"Men can print and read free newspapers.

"Men can assemble and petition the government for redress of grievances.

"Men can criticise the policies of the government as they will, in their homes and in public places, without the fear that they will be informed upon and ruined.

"Men can pray as they please, or refuse to pray.

"Men can cast a secret ballot to remove their elected leaders from power and substitute new leaders.

"Men run for office, are defeated, go unmolested about their business.

"Men are secure in their persons and their houses against unreasonable searches and seizures.

"Men accused of crime have the right of trial by jury.

"Men are protected against excessive fines and 'cruel and unusual punishments.'

"Men have the right to strike against an employer, and they are specifically secured in that right by acts of Congress and decisions of the highest court.

"Men can appeal to the courts against acts of aggression either by executive or by legislative power.

"Such are the blessings guaranteed to Americans by the constitution.

"'We, the people' spoke through the constitution. The people set up a government to serve the individual, not a government to exalt the state at the expense of the individual.

"We accept as commonplace the civil rights which the supremacy of the people's constitution through 150 years has handed on to us. The fact that we so accept them is a measure of our good fortune.

"Our democracy may be slow; it may be, by the standards of the dictators, inefficient. But it makes for common decency in human relations, for tolerance, for free expression in the arts, for individual self-respect—in short, for dignity in human life.

"Let us then, while admitting the shortcomings of our democracy and dedicating ourselves to its improvement, give humble thanks for our blessings."

IX

AMERICA MUST GIVE THE ANSWER

Carl SCHURZ, one of the most prominent martyrs of the German revolution in 1848, the German born Champion of Liberty, the international reformer, American Ambassador, American General, Senator, Secretary of the Interior, the model-son of his adopted country, made in his famous speech on Americanism, delivered in Boston, April 18, 1859, the following statements:

"When I was old enough to read, and descriptions of this country and books on American history fell into my hands . . . I began to exercise my brain with the thought of what man might be and become when left perfectly free to himself. And still later, when ripening into manhood, I looked up from my schoolbooks into this stir and bustle of the world . . . and I saw my nation shake her chains in order to burst them, and I heard a gigantic, universal shout for Liberty rising up to the skies; and at last, after having struggled manfully and drenched the earth of the fatherland with the blood of thousands of noble beings, I saw that nation crushed down again, not only by overwhelming armies, but by the dead weight of customs and institutions and notions and prejudices which past centuries had heaped upon them and which a moment of enthusiasm, however sublime, could not destroy. . . . Then I turned my eyes instinctively across the Atlantic Ocean, and America and Americanism, as I fancied them, appeared to me as the last depositories of the hopes of all true friends of humanity.

"I say all this . . . in order to show what America is

to the thousands of thinking men in the old world, who, disappointed in their fondest hopes and depressed by the saddest experience, cling with their last remnant of confidence in human nature, to the last spot on earth where man is free to follow the road to attainable perfection and where . . . he acts on his own responsibility. They ask themselves: Was it but a wild delusion when we thought that man has the faculty to be free and to govern himself? Have we been fighting, were we ready to die, for a mere phantom, for a mere product of morbid imagination? This question downtrodden humanity cries out into the world, and from this country it expects an answer. . . ."

Thus spoke Karl Schurz seventy nine years ago. And today the cry of downtrodden humanity sounds across the Ocean louder than ever before. America must give the answer . . . we, the free citizens of this great country.

X

THE AMERICAN LEAGUE OF NATURALIZED CITIZENS

The American League of Naturalized Citizens desires to foster harmony and goodwill and to resist racial enmity especially in times of European hostilities.

A member of the American League of Naturalized Citizens may become:

1. Who has signed The Declaration of Intention and has taken all legal steps to acquire the citizenship of the United States.

2. Who solemnly asserts that he or she knows the Constitution of the United States, approves of the same and is willing to defend this Constitution against all enemies.

3. Who is fully aware of the fact that the Constitution of the United States upholds the Republican form of Government based on Democratic principles granting to every citizen individual liberty within the necessary limits of civilized community, granting equal rights and justice to all, guaranteeing liberty of political and religious convictions, insofar as such convictions are consistent with the principles of the Constitution, granting liberty of speech, of Press and of scientific research.

4. Who is fully aware that the system of autocratic dictatorship is irreconcilable with the principles of the American Constitution so that no individual can possibly be a free American Citizen and at the same time a protagonist of slavery, dictatorship or any other doctrine tending to destroy free development.

5. Who is fully aware of the fact . . . (to use the words of Karl Schurz) . . . "that thousands of thinking men in the old world cling with their last

remnant of confidence in human nature, to the last spot on earth where man is free to follow the road to attainable perfection."

6. Who fully appreciates and values his or her individual duties as an American citizen in these historical times of ferment and development.

7. Who will gladly unite his or her individual abilities with those of all the other members of the League irrespective of race or descent in the interest of The United States, the country of our own free choice, our common, adopted fatherland.

8. Who solemnly pledges his or her readiness in case of war to share in all duties imposed by law.

9. Who solemnly promises to withdraw from the ranks of the League in case his or her convictions have altered and do not any more concur with the above indicated aims of the League.

10. Who solemnly asserts that he or she approves of all above indicated aims of the League and promises to endeavor to become a useful member of the American League of Naturalized Citizens to the best of his or her abilities, in the interest of the United States.

**END OF
TITLE**